High security animal disease laboratory in Bhopal

2009. SHRIMATI SYEDA ANWARA TAIMUR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that High Security Animal Disease Laboratory in Bhopal has been making efforts for the last one year about containing the adverse effects of deadly bird flu virus;

(b) if so, whether they have developed capabilities to ensure that India remains comparatively free of bird flu threat; and

(c) whether other animal diseases, which often impact livestock and thus indirectly endanger human life, be similarly dealt with?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes. Sir. The capabilities in the area of diagnostics and, vaccine production using indigenous strain have been developed. Further the country-wide bird flu management schedule has been prepared for containing the disease situation. Regular monitoring of the disease in the country through epidemiological surveillance is being carried out to assess its epidemiology.

(c) Yes, Sir. The capabilities have also been developed to tackle such diseases in near future.

Procurement of agro-products by MNCs

†2010. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of multinational companies engaged in procurement of agro-products from domestic markets;

(b) the quantity of foodgrains procured by the said companies during the last three years and the storage capacity of those companies;

(c) whether it is a fact that the availability of foodgrains particularly wheat, urad and masoor have been affected due to procurement being made by the said companies; and

(d) if not, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (d) The information will be collected from the State Governments and will be laid on the Table of the House.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.